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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Our Father in Heaven, we sing of Your steadfast love and proclaim Your faithfulness to all generations. Lord, make us one Nation, truly wise with righteousness, exalting us in due season.

Today, inspire our lawmakers to walk in the light of Your countenance. Abide with them so that Your wisdom will influence each decision they make. Lord, keep them from evil so that they will not be brought to grief, enabling them to avoid the pitfalls that lead to ruin. Empower them to glorify You in all they think, say, and do.

We pray in Your Holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HYDE SMITH). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 1 minute in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE JUSTICE ACT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, it was a sad day yesterday when we didn't get enough votes because the

Democratic leader didn't want Democrats to vote. We did get four of those votes from that side of the aisle, but the police reform bill didn't come out.

Senate Republicans are taking a step in advancing real change on this issue in our country. We have heard calls for police reform and are responding—not only because of George Floyd's murder in Minneapolis a few weeks ago but also because of peaceful demonstrations around the country on this issue calling for police reform.

Senator SCOTT is the leader of the JUSTICE Act. I am a cosponsor. It encourages States to stand as partners in addressing police reform. If State and local police departments don't comply with the provisions of the JUSTICE Act, such as training officers on deescalation and use-of-force and ensuring consistent use of body-worn cameras, they will not receive Federal funding for police action.

Iowa has made significant changes already, and a number of other States have followed Iowa's example. The Iowa Legislature unanimously passed police reform issues very much like what is in the Scott bill, and, working with leaders of color in Iowa to accomplish this goal, it went very smoothly through the Iowa Legislature. I got a firsthand report from my grandson, who is speaker of the Iowa House. The Iowa House is divided 53 to 47, but both houses of the Iowa Legislature passed these reforms unanimously.

Why can't Senate Democrats let us go forward with the Scott bill? All we need are four more Democratic votes. If it can happen in the Iowa Legislature, it ought to be able to happen here.

We have a role to play in the Senate, but let's not forget that, while we are doing that, we are also encouraging our State partners to also lead the charge in effecting real change. In fact, 50 State legislatures—every municipality—ought to be moving forward on police reforms of not only our type but

whatever they may think is best for their States or municipalities.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

THE JUSTICE ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, the American people have been asked to swallow a number of contradictions over the past few weeks. I have already discussed some of them here on the floor.

Many citizens were told by their mayors that small religious services were just too dangerous. At the same time, massive political protests were not just allowed but encouraged.

Americans have been told they should very carefully distinguish good people from bad apples if they are talking about protests and riots, but they must not make the same distinction if they are talking about the police.

Recently, the country was informed by hysterical journalists that a rational policy essay from our colleague Senator COTTON was just too inflammatory to publish, but the Speaker of the House can say Senator TIM SCOTT and his 48 cosponsors are “trying to get away with . . . the murder of George Floyd,” and Democrats just cheer her on—cheer her on.

Americans have been ordered to rethink and relearn our Nation's history by a movement that is itself so historically illiterate that they mistake George Washington, Ulysses S. Grant, and a 19th-century abolitionist for enemies of justice and destroy their monuments.

One common thread seems to connect all this: The far left wants you to play by one set of rules if you think like they do and a completely different set of rules if you dare to think anything else.

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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